
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6124

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2014 Regular Session

By Senate Health Care (originally sponsored by Senators Keiser, Dammeier, Hargrove, Ranker, McCoy, Hasegawa, Conway, Darneille, McAuliffe, Cleveland, Billig, Rolfes, Nelson, Mullet, Fraser, Frockt, Eide, Kohl-Welles, Kline, Hobbs, Pedersen, Hatfield, Parlette, Roach, and Becker)

READ FIRST TIME 02/07/14.

1 AN ACT Relating to developing a state Alzheimer's plan; creating
2 new sections; and providing an expiration date.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The department of social and health services
5 must convene an Alzheimer's disease working group to develop a state
6 Alzheimer's plan that consists of the following members to be appointed
7 by the department unless indicated otherwise:

8 (1) At least one unpaid family caregiver of a person who has been
9 diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease;

10 (2) At least one professional caregiver of a person who has been
11 diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease;

12 (3) At least one individual provider caregiver of a person who has
13 been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease;

14 (4) At least one person who has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's
15 disease;

16 (5) A representative of nursing homes;

17 (6) A representative of assisted living facilities;

18 (7) A representative of adult family homes;

- 1 (8) A representative of home care agencies that care for people
2 with Alzheimer's disease;
- 3 (9) A representative of adult day services;
- 4 (10) A health care professional who treats people with Alzheimer's
5 disease;
- 6 (11) A psychologist who specializes in dementia care;
- 7 (12) A person who conducts research on Alzheimer's disease;
- 8 (13) A representative of the Alzheimer's association;
- 9 (14) A representative of the Alzheimer society of Washington;
- 10 (15) The governor or the governor's designee;
- 11 (16) The secretary of the department of social and health services
12 or the secretary's designee;
- 13 (17) The secretary of the department of health or the secretary's
14 designee;
- 15 (18) The director of the health care authority or the director's
16 designee;
- 17 (19) The long-term care ombuds or the ombuds' designee;
- 18 (20) A member of the senate health care committee, appointed by the
19 senate;
- 20 (21) A member of the house of representatives health care and
21 wellness committee, appointed by the house of representatives;
- 22 (22) Five health policy advocates including representatives of the
23 American association of retired persons, area agencies on aging, elder
24 care alliance, and other advocates of the elderly or long-term care
25 workers;
- 26 (23) A representative of the University of Washington's Alzheimer's
27 disease research center;
- 28 (24) A member with experience in elder law or guardianship issues;
29 and
- 30 (25) A representative from the Washington state department of
31 veterans affairs.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The Alzheimer's disease working group
33 established in section 1 of this act must examine the array of needs of
34 individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, services available to
35 meet these needs, and the capacity of the state and current providers
36 to meet these and future needs. The working group must consider and
37 make recommendations and findings on the following:

1 (1) Trends in the state's Alzheimer's population and service needs
2 including, but not limited to:

3 (a) The state's role in long-term care, family caregiver support,
4 and assistance to persons with early-stage and early-onset of
5 Alzheimer's disease;

6 (b) State policy regarding persons with Alzheimer's disease and
7 dementia; and

8 (c) Estimates of the number of persons in the state who currently
9 have Alzheimer's disease and the current and future impacts of this
10 disease in Washington;

11 (2) Existing resources, services, and capacity including, but not
12 limited to:

13 (a) Type, cost, and availability of dementia services;

14 (b) Dementia-specific training requirements for long-term care
15 staff providing care to persons with Alzheimer's disease at all stages
16 of the disease;

17 (c) Quality care measures for assisted living facilities, adult
18 family homes, and nursing homes;

19 (d) Availability of home and community-based resources for persons
20 with Alzheimer's disease, including respite care;

21 (e) Number and availability of long-term dementia units;

22 (f) Adequacy and appropriateness of geriatric psychiatric units for
23 persons with behavior disorders associated with Alzheimer's disease and
24 related dementia;

25 (g) Assisted living residential options for persons with dementia;
26 and

27 (h) State support of Alzheimer's research through the Alzheimer's
28 disease research center at the University of Washington; and

29 (3) Needed policies or responses including, but not limited to, the
30 promotion of early detection and diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and
31 dementia, the provision of coordinated services and supports to persons
32 and families living with Alzheimer's disease or dementia disorders, the
33 capacity to meet these needs, and strategies to address identified gaps
34 in services.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The secretary of the department of
36 social and health services or the secretary's designee must convene the

1 first meeting and must serve as chair of the Alzheimer's disease
2 working group. Meetings of the working group must be open to the
3 public.

4 (2) The department of social and health services must submit a
5 report providing the findings and recommendations of the Alzheimer's
6 disease working group, including any draft legislation necessary to
7 implement the recommendations, to the governor and the health care
8 committees of the senate and the house of representatives by January 1,
9 2016.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act expires January 31, 2016.

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